



State Senator Jackie Speier

District Update



8th Senate District

Welcome to my District Update with news on what I am doing in Sacramento and in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties. This edition covers current legislation, key issues and some great district events.

AUGUST 2005 ISSUE

- **Senate Bill 37: What is the Big Deal about Steroids and Sports Supplements Anyway?**
- **San Francisco's Project Homeless Connect**
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SB 37: What is the Big Deal about Steroids and Sport Supplements Anyway?

Teens' rising use of performance-enhancers

- The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) estimates that over 20,000 California current high school athletes have used steroids, based on a national average of 3.1% and an approximate count of 700,000 student athletes in the state.
 - The 2004 Monitoring the Future Study, administered by the University of Michigan, showed that 3.4% of 12th graders had taken steroids, up from about 2% a decade earlier. This represents a rise in lifetime use of steroids among 12th graders of 50% over the past decade.
 - The University of Michigan study also showed that, in 1989, 63% of 12th graders believed that taking steroids posed a great risk; in 2004, the percentage was just 55%. So, while use of steroids has grown, the perception of their harmfulness has fallen.
 - In October, 2003, the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Association announced the results of a nationally-representative survey, showing that 1.1 million adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17 had taken "potentially dangerous performance-enhancing supplements and drugs."
- requiring virtually no credentials of its coaches beyond basic CPR training.
 - At least one California high school solicits sponsorships from performance-enhancing dietary supplement manufacturers.
 - College athletes competing in the NCAA have to abide by a list of banned substances and undergo testing to enforce their compliance, but there is no banned substances list for high schools in California.

SB 37: Solutions in our high schools

- The bill would require high school athletes and their parents to sign a form acknowledging their understanding of the banned supplements as a condition of the athletes' participation in school sports.

Prohibits Promotion, Distribution & Sponsorship

- SB 37 would prohibit manufacturers of dietary supplements containing USADA-banned substances from sponsoring school events or marketing their products on school campuses.
- The bill would also prohibit school employees from distributing or selling dietary supplements containing USADA-banned supplements.

Requires Coaches' Education

- SB 37 would require high school coaches to complete a comprehensive coaching education program that includes a component on the use of steroids and performance-enhancing dietary supplements by adolescents.
- Coaches would be financially responsible for the course, and would have to take it only once. The California Interscholastic Federation estimates the cost of the course to be \$65 for most coaches and the course would count toward their ongoing education requirement.

Problems in high schools

- The NCAA reports that most college athletes who tested positive for steroids began using them in high school.
- A recent poll conducted by GNC Pro Performance found that 87% of high school and collegiate coaches think dietary supplements are safe; 43% make product recommendations to their athletes; 77% report that they get their latest information about supplements from magazines, newspapers, and websites.
- While over 30 states mandate that school coaches undergo specific training courses that include information on the dangers of steroids and sports supplements, California does not,

San Francisco: Project Homeless Connect

On August 4th, Mayor Gavin Newsom and the city of San Francisco held the sixth installment of the immensely successful Project Homeless Connect. This event, held at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium, connects San Francisco's homeless population with services offered by numerous private businesses, and city and state organizations.

Throughout the day, over 1,000 volunteers assisted 1,162 clients who benefited from services ranging from housing and medical needs to wheelchair repair. It is inspiring to know that this program helped 162 people; all who spent Wednesday night sleeping on the street, and were able to spend Thursday night in a bed because of the outreach provided by Project Homeless Connect volunteers.

I believe in public service and I believe in Project Homeless Connect. I was proud to have most of my staff volunteer for the day. We all learned so much, in fact, some of what we learned may be developed into future legislation.

Services provided at no cost included dental, vision, and medical screenings, housing assistance, meals, mental health services, legal aid, assistance with SSI and Medi-Cal registration, methadone and substance abuse treatment, access to making phone calls and many other services.

To volunteer at the next Project Homeless Connect on October 18 or for more information please visit www.projecthomelessconnect.com.

Thank You Summer Interns!

Our summer interns donate their time and energy to serving the constituents of the 8th Senate district in exchange for the experience of working in a Senate office. I expect great things from these young men and women in the future! Thank you all for your help this summer.



(left to right) Ramanda Sanning, Elton Chan, Nathan Maynard, Patrice Fabel, Ashleigh Lew, Senator Speier, Tim Dunccheon, Beth Brown, Sona Lim, Erich Albrecht, Cynthia Lara, Brooke Connell, Victor Rodionoff, Petty Chen, Jason You, John Liu

(Not pictured: Erin Mann, Erin O'Brien, Josh Blond, Craig Schnagl, Kristen Lloyd, Alena Stein, Molly Cohn, Ghita Riane, Mitra Anoushiravani, Garret Rodriguez, Jessica Nuti, Michelle Bourdeaux, Brooke, Lidia Alvarez, and Robert Imielski)

Highlighted Legislation

SB 2: Homeowner's Insurance

SB 2 is a multi-faceted bill meant to regulate the quality of homeowner's insurance by creating

standards for the industry. SB 2 also creates guidelines for what homeowner's insurance must

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provide for their clients and what computer programs they may use to assess damages.

SB 292: Workers Compensation Privacy

SB 292 has two parts. The first section limits access of personally identifiable information contained in workers' compensation benefits claims to journalists and sets guidelines for what they may divulge. The second section prescribes the formula to be used for reimbursement to pharmacies, practitioners, and other entities for the dispensing of a drug that is not found in the Medi-Cal database.

SB 440: Privacy Non-Discrimination

SB 440 requires any state agency, or person contracting with a state agency, to encrypt personal information transported via a laptop or other electronic storage device, and prohibits a business from discriminating against a customer who does not permit the business to share the customer's personal information.

SB 550: Data Brokers

SB 550 requires data brokers to authenticate their customers before providing them with consumer data files. The Act also allows a consumer who is the subject of a consumer data file to receive, upon request, information contained about him or her in the file.

SB 611: USDA Recalls - Public Notification

SB 611 requires a meat or poultry supplier, distributor, broker or processor to immediately notify the Department Health Services (DHS), when meat or poultry products they sell are subject to a voluntary recall by the U.S Department of Agriculture (USDA).

It also empowers the DHS to notify appropriate local health officers and environmental health directors that they have received meat that has been subject to a voluntary recall by the USDA.

SB 619: Electronic Monitoring

SB 619 authorizes the use of continuous electronic monitoring (CEM), which may include global positioning system (GPS) technology, to supervise persons on parole or probation.

SB 688: Skin Cancer Prevention/ Public Schools

SB 688 requires the State Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health Services (DHS), to develop a skin cancer prevention policy to educate pupils in grades 1-6.

SB 689: Organ Donor Registry

SB 689 enhances the process by which holders of Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)-issued driver's licenses and ID cards may designate their willingness to donate organs or tissue upon death or to make a contribution to support the California Organ and Tissue Donor Registry, a private nonprofit entity.

SB 806: Teen Driving Restrictions

SB 806 imposes additional restrictions and penalties on persons operating a vehicle with a permit or provisional driver's license.

SB 861: Animals: Dogs: spay, neuter, and breeding programs

SB 861 allows cities and counties to pass specified breed-specific legislation for spaying and neutering and breeding restrictions.



The 8th Senate District includes the cities of San Francisco, Brisbane, Daly City, Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Pacifica, Millbrae, Burlingame, Hillsborough, San Mateo, Foster City, Belmont, Woodside, Portola Valley, Half Moon Bay, the communities of Broadmoor, Montara, Moss Beach, and the Farallon Islands.